



# Current Oversight of Genetic Testing

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# Genetic Testing Oversight Issues



- Genetic revolution – New scientific, medical, social, legal, ethical concerns
- Genetic evolution – potential benefits and potential risks

**Challenge:**

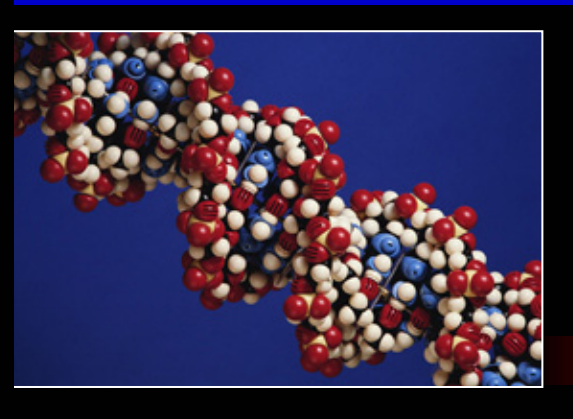
**Bring our public policies in line with the genetic revolution**

# Quality Testing



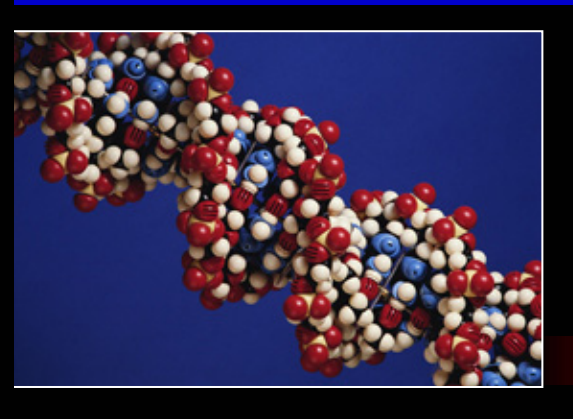
**Access**

**Cost**



# Positive aspects of regulation/oversight

- Protection of the public – Sanction
- Level playing field – Minimum Standards
- Provide benchmarks for good practice
- Monitor attainment of goals (PT, QA, QC)



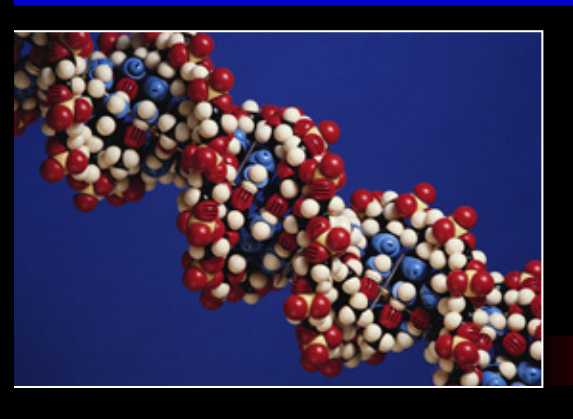
# Negative aspects of regulation/oversight

- Always out of date
- Focus on process rather than outcome
- Increases costs
- May not prevent bad outcomes
- May impede new technology
- May impose rigid requirements (personnel)



# Background

- CLIA enacted - 1988
- NIH/DOE Task Force Report - 1997
- CLIAC recommends changes to CLIA – 1998
- SACGT recommends increased oversight – 1999
- CDC Notice of Intent – May 2000



# NIH/DOE Report: Areas of Concern

- Appropriate introduction of new genetic tests into clinical practice
- Adequate regulation of laboratory testing
- Increasing healthcare provider and patient understanding of genetics
- Maintaining access to quality testing for rare diseases



# Proposed CLIA Genetics Specialty



- Definition – What is included and excluded?
- General requirements
  - Documentation of clinical validity
  - Person authorized to order a genetic test
  - Informed consent
  - Confidentiality
  - Genetic counseling
- Requirements for specific testing phases
  - Pre-analytic phase
  - Analytic phase
  - Post-analytic phase



# CLINICAL VALIDITY

## 1. Lab director's role in documenting clinical validity:

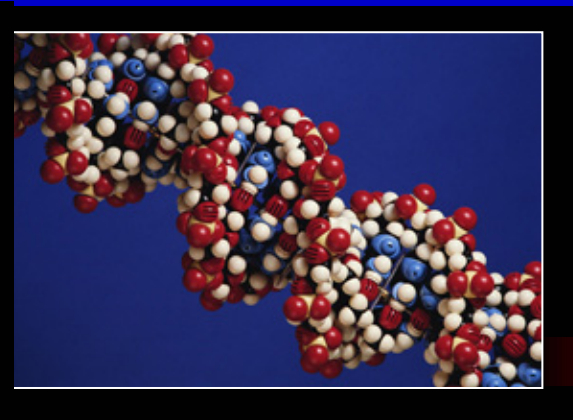
- no responsibility for documentation; or
- ensures that documentation exists in literature;

or

- documents clinical validity of all tests offered

## 2. Should clinical validity be established before a test can be offered?

- mixed opinions on this issue



# INFORMED CONSENT

## 1. Should CLIA require documentation?

- Is documentation an integral part of laboratory practice?
- Is CLIA the place to “police” ordering physicians?

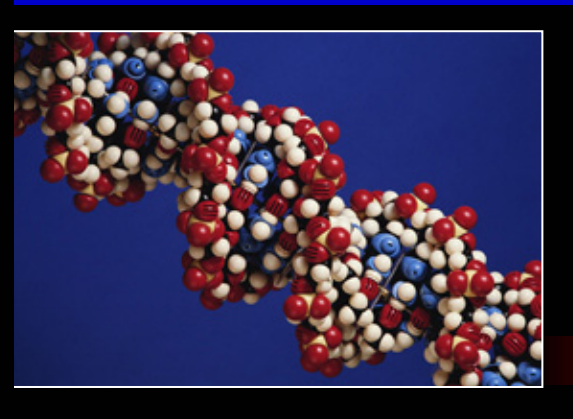
## 2. Should the laboratory’s role in assuring documentation of IC include:

- documentation that an authorized person has obtained IC?
- alerting health care providers when IC is needed?
- providing IC forms to health care providers?
- documenting the adequacy of IC forms?



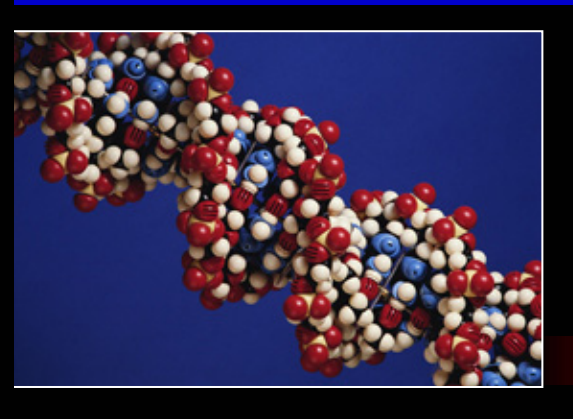
# CLIAC Issues

- QA/QC/PT
- Re-use of samples
- Authorized person to order genetic tests
- Confidentiality
- Test requisition and clinical information
- Result reporting
- Record and specimen retention



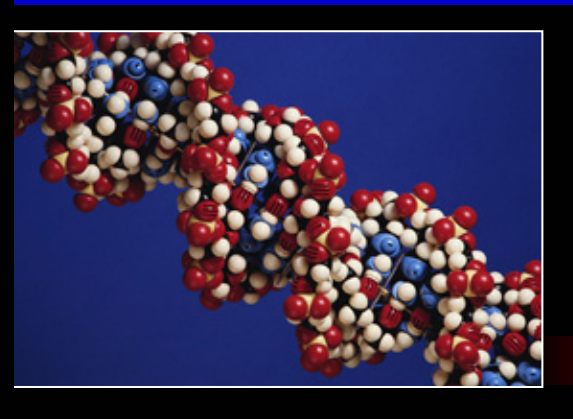
# Secretary's Advisory Committee on Genetic Testing - Recommendations

- Strengthen human protection in research
  - IRB review and informed consent
- Augment CLIA to address genetic testing
- Establish FDA review of all new genetic tests
- Develop information on the clinical utility of genetic tests



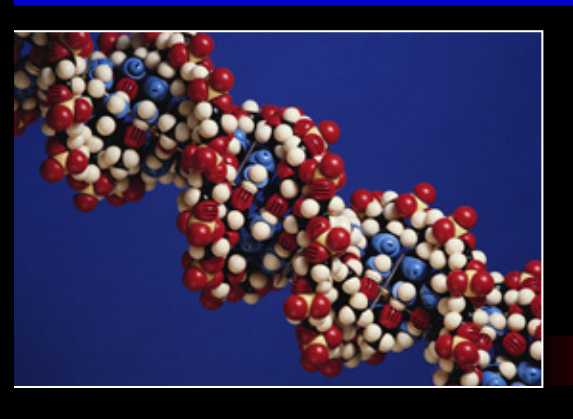
# Current US Oversight of genetic testing

- CLIA for laboratories
- FDA for kits and devices
- IRB for patients in research
- NYS – QC, personnel, test validation, test review and approval
- Professional guidelines and standards of practice (AMP, ACMG, CAP, etc.)



# International oversight of genetic testing

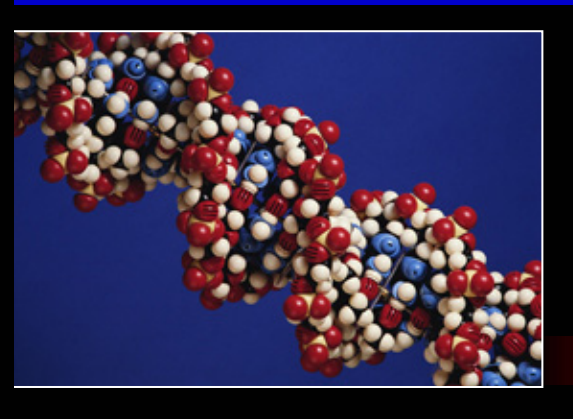
- UNESCO
- OECD
- European Commission
- ISO
- ILAC/WHO
- Eurogenetest



# International oversight of genetic testing

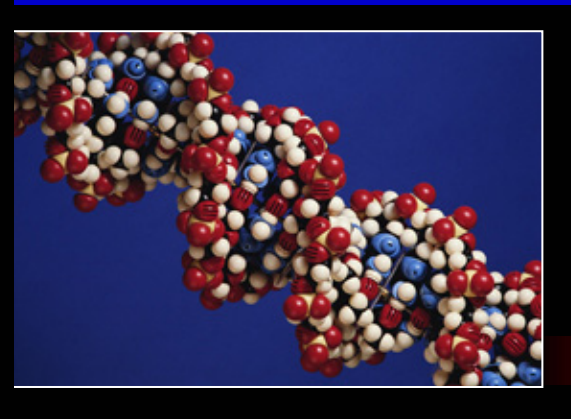
- WHO
- Professional guidelines and standards of practice
- Sweden/Norway Biobanks
- Others





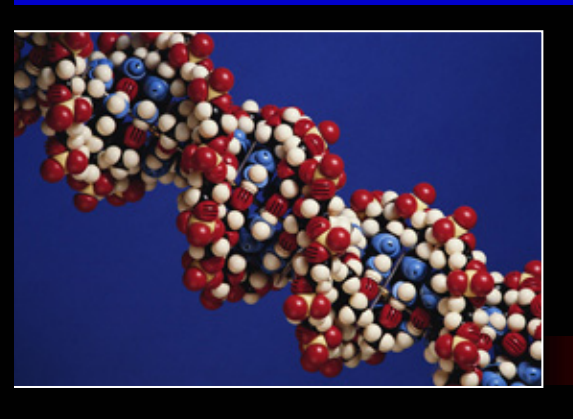
# Secretary's Advisory Committee on Genetics, Health and Society – Additional Concerns

- Coverage and Reimbursement
- Large Population Studies
- Pharmacogenomics
- Direct-to-Consumer Marketing



# The Genetic Testing Environment

- Rapid advances in genetic technology
- Molecular basis of both rare and common disorders
- Commercialization of testing
- Genetic testing no longer for rare diseases or conditions



# Public Policy Challenges

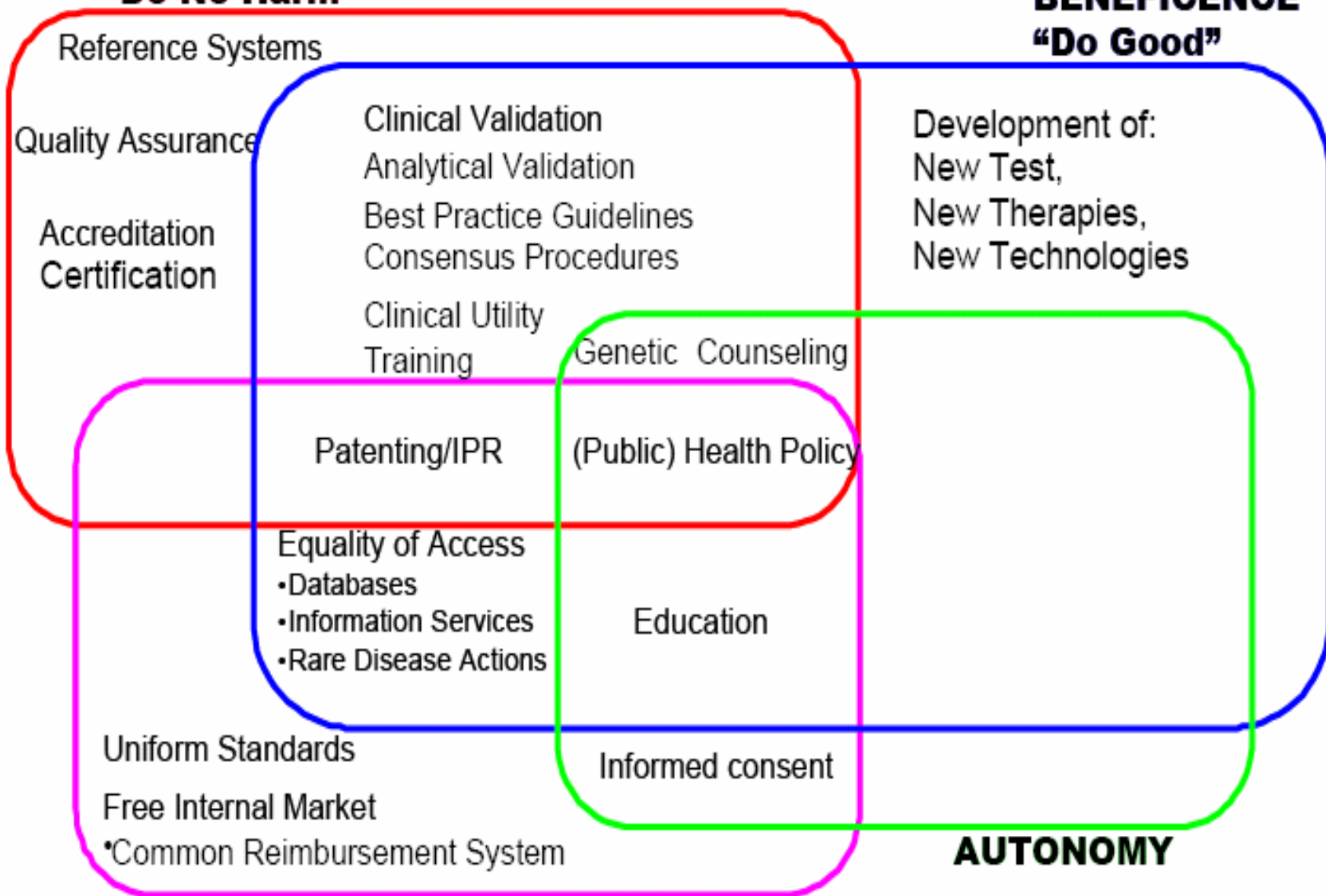
- Balancing access, costs, and quality of services
- Clarifying roles of government, professional organizations, advocacy groups in ensuring adequate oversight
- Dealing with new issues posed by genetic testing
- Obtaining data needed to guide policy decisions

# NONMALEFICENCE

**“Do No Harm”**

# BENEFICENCE

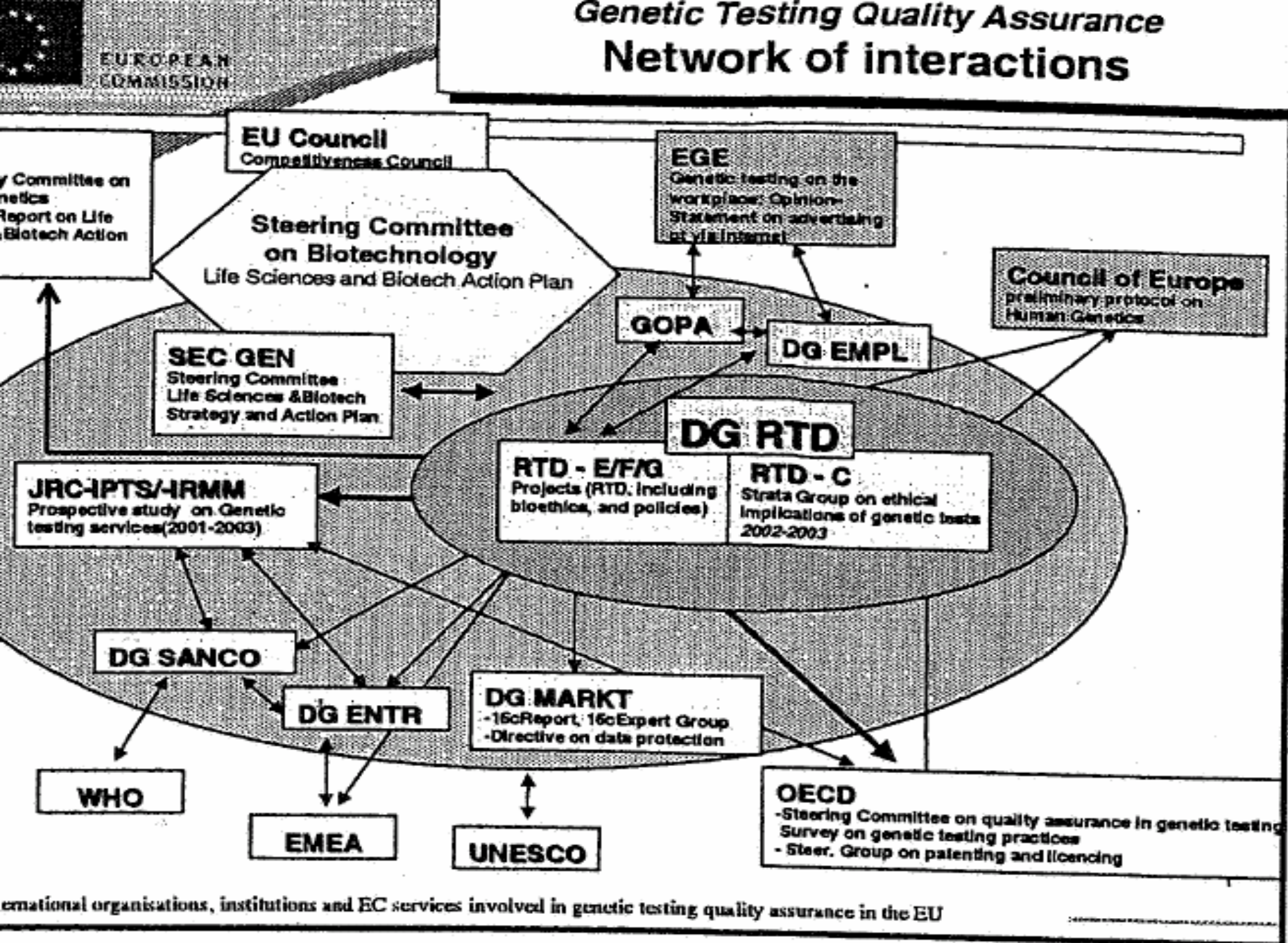
**“Do Good”**

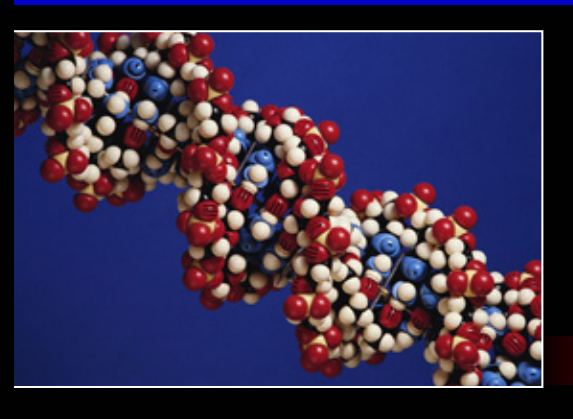


# JUSTICE

# AUTONOMY

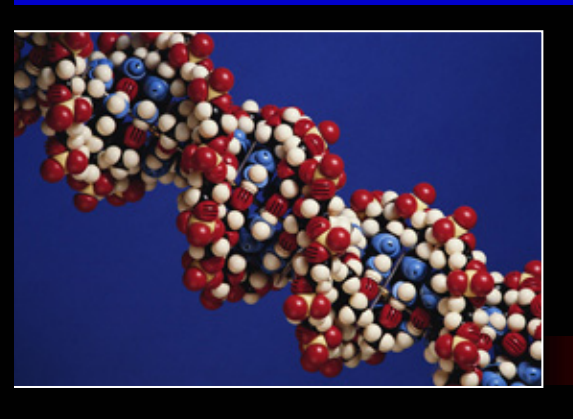






# Observations

- Public/private partnerships are going to be important to the oversight process of genetic tests and testing
- Government oversight of labs under CLIA, tests under FDA, and human subjects under IRB will be enhanced
- Data will be needed to guide public policy decisions about when tests should be used to test individuals and populations
- ELS Issues will challenge society



# Oversight Goals

- **Balance:** Access = Burden/Protection
- **Timeliness:** With Broad Input
- **Long-lasting:** Crystal Ball
- **Effective Implementation**

